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Soviets still beaming radiation at embassy

BERLIN [AP]—The Soviet Union is continuing its microwave bombardment of the American Embassy in Moscow, and the former U.S. ambassador there says "we would like to see it stopped."

Walter J. Stoessel Jr., now ambassador to West Germany, emphasized, however, that the present level of microwave exposure does not constitute a health hazard. He also said a screen put in use at the Moscow legation helps cut down the microwave inflow, which was first reported last winter.

Stoessel was interviewed by the Associated Press Monday at the West Berlin residence maintained for American envoys to Bonn. Stoessel, whose duties also include being senior U.S. official for Berlin, was on a three-day visit here after taking over his Bonn post on Oct. 20.

"WE CERTAINLY have a microwave problem," Stoessel said. "It's still going on. The level is lower. I do not think

there is any danger to health. We would like to see it stopped."

Asked whether his departure from Moscow to take up his new post last month was a result of his own health being affected by the microwave flow, Stoessel replied: "No, I was told to come here. I serve at the wish of the President."

He added that the Russians have not admitted that they engage in the microwave eavesdropping.

Stoessel, a 56-year-old career diplomat, is rated both as an expert on Soviet and East European affairs and as a specialist in the strategic arms limitation talks [SALT] with the Soviets that have been stalled for some time.

BEFORE GOING to Moscow in 1974, Stoessel was ambassador to Poland and was instrumental in making contact with representatives of the Peking government before the warming in U.S.-Chi-



Walter J. Stoessel Jr. served two earlier terms in Moscow, as a consular officer in 1947 and as minister-counsellor in 1963-65.

He said he expects no basic policy changes in American relations with West Germany or with the rest of Europe and the Atlantic Alliance when President-elect Carter takes office.